(THIS letter, and a series of other very important letters which will be sent by me, are written only in the interest of the STATE, without any personal motive, and it is therefore hoped that a very careful consideration will be given to all the ARGUMENTS used and CONCLUSIONS drawn, and IMMEDIATE ACTIONS will be taken in the various important and urgent matters.)

B H A D R A V A T I
18-2-1922.
(Typed and Posted through a
Bangalore friend...

Sir,

I beg to introduce myself to you as a LOYAL BRAMHIN subje. your State, who has studied very carefully all the industrial and other important problembe pertaining to the State, and who has a broad mind, without any of the very common caste prejudices, or hatred towards the NON-BRAMHINS.

Of all the present important subjects the ONE which is upper most im my mind for the past 3 months is THE MYSORE DISTILLATION AND IRON WORKS in Bhadravati, on which the Government have staked about 2 Crores of Rupees, and about the SUCCESS of which there are all sorts of bad rumours all over the Mysore State. The reason why I am giving THE FIRST PLACE in my thoughts to this subject, is that it is realy THE MOST IMPOPTANT SUBJECT THE DAY, and moreover, my services having recently been lent to the Works the Government, I have a very intimate knowledge of the subject and can on it with authority.

As a LOYAL SUBJECT of the State my main object in this, my first, letter is to show you some reasons why the WORKS are likely to be a FAILURE, and to suggest the ways and means you should IMMEDIATELY take to make them a SUCCESS.

FIRST of all, you must bear in mind that the WORKING IRON CO. in SHIMOGA are a great RIVAL to the WORKS, and in their own interest it is their desire that the State WORKS should fail. To achieve their object they have [redacted] arranged [redacted] to spread rumours that the FOREST is not [redacted]sufficient, the ORE is not satisfactory, etc. etc. Dr. Smeeth is taken up in their confidence and they

are

ivately arranging to keep an Englishman in Mr. G. A. Richardson's (although an American has got a better Claim to the vacant post) so when there are all ENGLISHMEN on the WORKS, they can easily join with RIVAL ENGLISH Company in Shimoga, and ruin the WORKS in no time.

ILLUSION. Therefore call Mr. Richardson immediately at any cost (he erved Rs 3000/- per month for which he asks) and remove all Englishmen one after other (the first to be Dr. Smeeth) and replace them by Americans, Germans or ndians.

Mr. Richardson worked for the WORKS day and night on the meagre salary of Rs 1500/- a month. What experienced Superintendent of Construction Works, would have worked for less than Rs 3000/- a month ?

SECONDLY, soon after Mr. Suratker took his duties as THE CHIEF ACCOUNTANT of the WORKS in May 1919, and began to wield his extra-ordinary Powers (in the eyes of the Bramhin Officials) given to him by Tatas, viz., to appoint clerks for salaries over Rs 100/- a month and to draw cheques on his single Signature for Rs 5, 10 or 15 thousand, all the Govt, Bramhin Officials began to blink and became very jealous of him, and determined to to make him run away. But on account of his honesty, high sense ~~xfx~~ of duty, diligence, loving nature, broad-mindedness, he won the confidence of his employers, and the love of his co-workers and of his subordinates, and therefore all the efforts of the Govt. Bramhin Officials failed. The Govt. Auditors tried their utmost to find fault with his work, but they could not. Any man with his powers would made about a Lac of Rupees during these 3 years he has been in charge of his Office, but, be it said to his credit, he is above all curruption, (Please pause for a moment and reflect how many Govt. Officials, Dy. Commissioners, Amildars etc. are above corruption ?) and on the contrary on account of illness in his family (he being the THE FIRST MAN TO COME IN THE JUNGLE to take charge of the onerous duties) he has incurred a debt of nearly Rs 3000/- in Bhadravati. In the BENKIPURA of 1919 no Govt. Official would have dared to take his place. As he told the other day ~~to~~ a small party of his friends, and also said in reply to the address

Rs. (One year's salary and 4 times 1st/Class journey to Calcutta with/the notorious Bhatta) in training Mr. Venkatnaranppa ? What can he do there except creating feeling against the Non-Brahmins and Company clerks ? He should have come to try the hard duties of the Chief Accountant during the Construction Period, which is now nearly over.) If you wish to retain Mr. Venkatnaranppa also give him some independent position, BUT IN NO CASE DISTURB MR. SURATKER AND TAKE HIS CURSE. HIS REMOVAL WILL BE A SURE SIGN OF THE FAILURE OF THE WORKS. Bear these words of a LOYAL BRAHMIN in mind. They are not my words BUT GODS who sees everything.

THIRDLY, Since the Govt. men ~~xxxx~~ came to Bhadravati about 3 months back, they are trying their best to remove the Company men. I and a few others who have come here some time before these men came, were members of the Clerk's Club in Bhadravati. But since these men came they have made us resign the old club and have started a new Club only for the men who have come from Govt. service in Bangalore. This is a very ruinous policy. This will, if not nipped in the bud, lead to a regular hand to hand fight betwee the Company men and the Govt. men, the whole labour force being on the Co. men's side. The Govt. men have also decided, with the help of MR. Venkatnaranppa, to get the Co. men in trouble by bringing bogus cases against them one after another, and dismiss them.

CONCLUSION. You are therefore requested to warn the Govt. men who have recently come here not to start a new Club and to hate them, but friendly with them, and make Bhadravati a place worthy of living inste making it a HELL as they propose. ABOVE ALL WARN MR. VENKATNARANPPA TO CHANGE HIS SUICIDAL POLICY, which will surely ruin the WORKS, if allowed be followed.

Anxiously waiting to see how far THIS GOD'S WARNING moves you, and you take the necessary action in the matters IMMEDIATELY,

I BEG TO REMAIN,

A LOYAL BRAHMIN SUBJECT

OF THE STATE.